



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Notice of Proposed Action

May 7, 2008

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes.

The Administrator has received a complete application for renewal and modification of water pollution control discharge permit #NEV97023 from the following applicant:

Sierra Pacific Power Company (SPPC)
Tracy Power Generating Station
6226 West Sahara Avenue MS 30
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

The applicant has applied for renewal and modification of the discharge permit for the Tracy Power Generating Station (PGS) which SPPC operates at 191 Wunotoo Road, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada, east of Sparks Nevada. The Tracy PGS has completed construction of two new power generation units which expand the power generation capacity of the plant, and includes the new combined cycle units (8,9, and 10) , and a plant wastewater treatment system. The SPPC Tracy facility's Piñon Pine evaporation pond has a zero discharge standard of performance, and receives plant process water formerly discharged to the Tracy evaporation pond which has been decommissioned, and removed. Wastewater discharged to the pond includes spent water from the facility's new wastewater treatment system, brine water from a new Reverse Osmosis system, and wastestreams from the chemical cleaning operations of plant units, incidental stormwater and facility drain wastewaters. Water is pumped into the Tracy PGS cooling pond from the Truckee River, and receives treated cooling water from the facility back into the pond for recycling and fire suppression use both at the SPPC Tracy station and the nearby Duraflex property.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue the permit to discharge, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days either in person or by mail to:

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Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

All comments or objections received within thirty (30) days will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address, by FAX at 775.687.4684 or by calling Icyll C. Mulligan of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at 775.687.9432.

Copies of the Fact Sheet and Public Notice may be viewed or printed from the NDEP website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.